

## Tea with Claire

<https://teawithclaire.com/>

**“A LIVELY TRANSCONTINENTAL ADVENTURE TEEMING WITH CLEVER HUMOR AND CROSS-CULTURAL INSIGHTS.”**

**– KIRKUS REVIEWS**



### An Adventure Fueled by Tea and Hedgerow Fruit...

When American Claire Craig Evans married a charming British man, she had to uproot life as she knew it and relocate to the UK.

Who wouldn't want to move to an enchanted island where mysterious women with dewy complexions made jam in thatched cottages with millennia-old lichen attached?

Sure, experienced American expats offered nuggets of wisdom ("Bring over a lifetime supply of taco seasoning!") but they weren't even mild comfort as Claire tried to avoid death, jail, and wayward sheep while experiencing the reality of English living.

If she couldn't even pass a pub quiz, how would she ever pass the infamous Life in the UK test, the high-stakes hurdle required to stay on British soil (and with her husband) indefinitely?

### Purchasing Details:

Available via Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Ingram, Baker & Taylor and for order at all independent booksellers

Paperback ISBN:  
978-1-961542-00-6

Ebook ISBN:  
978-1-961542-01-3

Audiobook ISBN:  
978-1-961542-02-0  
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Visit [www.teawithclaire.com](http://www.teawithclaire.com) for book updates and information on available talks.

**"[A] HILARIOUS AND HEARTWARMING READ... EVANS WILL HAVE YOU LAUGHING OUT LOUD AND EMPATHIZING WITH HER EVERY STEP OF THE WAY."  
– MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW**

Claire Evans is an author, former journalist, attorney, and college lecturer who started her love of most things British as she and her mother watched countless Britcoms on PBS. She studied abroad in London and, against the odds, she married a Brit she met in Peoria, Illinois. They lived in England for a number of years. Her speaking business, Tea with Claire, grew from friends asking for travel advice.



# Steeped in Secrecy

## Genealogy Records and Resources

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### Where do I start?

- Family Stories
- Who told you and when? Write it down!
- Does more than one person know the story? Write it down!
- Examine available family documents
- Do you have a published or personal family tree?
- Does the tree have source citations?
- Are you or was an ancestor a member of a lineage society?
- Create (or reevaluate) a family tree using a subscription service or free site
- Seek assistance from library staff, lineage societies, FamilySearch centers, or local genealogy experts
- Plan a research budget which includes subscription costs, paid research & membership fees

### My Ancestors Weren't in Boston!

- Philadelphia – Estimated 8,000 city residents attended a mass meeting November 27, 1773 and threatened British tea ship Captain Samuel Ayres with tar and feathering. Ship turned back and no tea was destroyed.
- Charleston Tea Party – Tea standoff on December 3, 1773. Tea removed from the ship by government officials and stored in the basement of the Exchange building on December 22, 1773. The stored tea was seized and sold by locals three years later to support America's war for independence.
- New York City – Tea standoff on December 15, 1773. Around 200 merchants, lawyers, artisans, and businessmen signed a petition against the importation of East India Company tea.
- Princeton, New Jersey - (January 1774) – Forty university students pounded on the doors of local tea drinkers demanding their tea. Tea was seized and burned.

- Chestertown (Maryland) Tea Party – Local residents forcefully boarded ship on May 23, 1774 and threw ship’s cargo in to the Chester River.
- Yorktown (Virginia) Tea Party – Local residents boarded a ship in the harbor and dumped two chests of tea into the York River on November 7, 1774.
- York (Maine) Tea Party - Local residents broke into a storehouse containing stored commercial tea on September 23, 1774 and carried off the embargoed goods. No reports of how the tea was destroyed.
- Annapolis Tea Party – The ship Peggy Stewart and her 2,320 pounds of tea was run aground and torched on October 19, 1774.
- Greenwich (New Jersey) Tea Party – Greenwich citizens forced their way into a cellar of stored tea, stole it and burned it on December 22, 1774.

### **Where are the Women?**

- Boston Tea Party
  - Sarah Bradlee Fulton is the “Mother of the Boston Tea Party” credited with disguising participants as Native Americans to protect their identities
    - Established hospital during the American Revolution, acted as a messenger, and organized supplies for the military
  - Elizabeth Nichols Dyar mixed and applied paint to the men of the Boston Tea Party
- Edenton, North Carolina (Oct. 25, 1774)
  - Fifty women in Edenton, North Carolina, signed and published a statement declaring their intention to boycott all British goods
- Wilmington, North Carolina (Spring 1775)
  - Women of Wilmington publicly burned their tea to protest imposing trade legislation and increased taxation
- Formed groups such as the Daughters of Liberty and the Ladies of Philadelphia

### **Databases and Resources – Paid Sites**

American Ancestors (New England Historic Genealogical Society)

[www.americanancestors.org](http://www.americanancestors.org)

- Individual Membership - \$99.95
- Family Membership - \$119.95 (three members in the same household)

- Three-month Membership - \$34.95
  - *Spilling the Tea: Researching Boston Tea Party Patriots* (YouTube) <https://rb.gy/43nj3>

Ancestry [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

- Library Edition available at most public libraries (in-library use only)
- Individual subscription runs \$300-\$500 per year depending on subscription package
- AARP Members receive 30% discount on Ancestry.com for their first year
- Retired and active military have free remote access to Ancestry through the DOD MWR Libraries website online  
<https://dodmwrlibraries.org/biography-genealogy>

## **Societies and Organizations**

Boston Tea Party Descendants Program

<https://www.bostontepartyship.com/boston-tea-party-descendants>

- Lineage Member category: anyone who is a descendant with documented lineage to any of the following groups:
  - Boston Tea Party Participants, Loyal Nine, Boston Sons of Liberty, North End Caucus, St. Andrew's Lodge, Ship guard volunteers, Signers of November 1773 petitions to town selectmen
  - \$400 application fee/\$125 annually
- Eyewitness to History category: descendants with documented lineages to the following groups:
  - Inhabitants of Boston in 1773, Eyewitnesses to history (family lore etc.)
  - \$400 application fee/\$100 annually
- Co-Conspirator's category: A yearly fee for researchers, educators, or the general public that would like to support the program, with access to the Boston Tea Party Descendants landing website
  - \$75 annually

Boston Tea Party Society <https://www.bostontepartysociety.org/>

- \$90 for one year or \$540 for lifetime membership

National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution

<https://www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy>

- Extensive genealogical collection <https://www.dar.org/library/dar-library-research-guides>
  - Research assistance offered by local chapters
  - Genealogy How-To Guides
  - 84,000 Family Bible Records
  - Forgotten Patriots
  - Researching British-Occupied Areas
- DAR Ancestor Search - <https://rb.gy/9fp6c>
- DAR Descendant Search - <https://rb.gy/5keao>

National Society Sons of the American Revolution <https://www.sar.org/>

- Extensive genealogical resources online, with a several online research services and databases <https://www.sar.org/genealogy-resources/>

General Society Sons of the Revolution <https://sr1776.org/>

Order of the Founders and Patriots of America <https://ofpa.org/>

Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America

<https://www.nationalsocietydfpa.com/>

### Databases and Resources – Free Sites

- Massachusetts Archives <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/archives/archives.htm>
- Newberry Library [www.newberry.org](http://www.newberry.org)
- FamilySearch [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)
  - *Legal Materials Regarding the Boston Tea Party* <https://bit.ly/3OElalb>
- Internet Archive [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)
- Hathi Trust [babel.hathitrust.org](http://babel.hathitrust.org)
- Chronicling America <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

### Contemporary Resources

- *Ye Glorious Sons of Freedom [Tea Destroyed by Indians]* (1773) <https://shorturl.at/bnPR6>
- *Sentiments of an American Woman* by Esther de Berdt Reed (1851) <https://shorturl.at/fkHSV>
- Edenton Women's Tea Protest account printed in the *Virginia Gazette* (1774) <https://shorturl.at/wFUX0>

## Books

- *A Retrospect of The Boston Tea-Party with a Memoir George R.T. Hewes* (1834) <https://rb.gy/6myd4>
- *The Yankee Tea-Party; or, Boston in 1773* by Henry C. Watson (1851) <https://rb.gy/iyhda>
- *Tea Leaves: Being a Collection of Letters and Documents Relating to the Shipment of Tea to the American Colonies in the year 1773, by the East India Tea Company* by Francis S. Drake (1884) <https://rb.gy/uod0r>
- *Boston Tea Party: Daring Deeds of the Old Heroes* by Henry Watson (1888) <https://www.loc.gov/item/02002977/>
- *When Boston Braved the King* by William Eleazar Barton (1899) <https://rb.gy/gmwr0>
- *Grandfather's Chair: True Stories from New England History* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (1901) <https://rb.gy/anlfu>

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